

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first paragraph of Example 7 at page 49 as follows:

To a 12 gallon plastic graduated carboy (Nalgene Corp.) was added 30 liters of deionized water to which 1-2 mL of concentrated sulfuric acid was added. To the dilute acid solution, 800 grams ~~cm~~³ of solid, sodium meta-periodate ~~metaperiodate~~ was added. The periodate was dissolved by means of an overhead paddle stirrer. Solution was achieved in about 30 minutes at room temperature. The addition of sulfuric acid hastens the solution of meta-periodate salt but is not essential.